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# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Thailand

### Rice Price - Weekly

#### Weekly Rice Price Update

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**Report Highlights:**

TH1011 Despite stable domestic prices, export prices last week for most grades of rice declined slightly due to the Thai baht weakening to 30.6 baht/\$. Most exporters remain conservative in their quotations this week as the exchange rate is volatile.

**Post:**  
Bangkok

## Market Tone

**Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending Jan. 24, 2011**

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	970	-	1,030	-	970	930	-	975	985
WR 100 B	515	-	545	-	530	535	525	530	534
PB 100%	520	-	540	-	530	530	540	532	535
PB 5%	515	-	530	-	525	525	535	526	529
WR 5%	500	-	525	-	510	515	515	513	517
WR 10%	495	-	520	-	505	510	-	508	509
WR 15%	480	-	500	-	-	505	-	495	495
WR 25%	460	-	470	-	-	475	-	468	470
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	410	-	415	-	400	410	-	409	405
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 30.60 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Despite stable domestic prices, export prices last week for most grades of rice declined slightly due to the Thai baht weakening to 30.6 baht/\$, compared to 30.4 baht/\$ in the previous week. However, most exporters remain conservative in their quotations this week as the exchange rate is volatile. This week the exchange rate has depreciated to a four-month record at 30.9 baht/\$. Foreign buyers are closely monitoring the price movements of Thai and Vietnamese white rice as the Philippines is expected to make new inquiries next month. Presently, the price difference between Thai and Vietnamese white rice is typically \$35/MT.

The government's weekly benchmark price for white rice for January 17-23, 2011 increased by 2.2 percent.

**Table 2: Price Insurance Scheme for MY2009/2010 - MY2010/2011 rice crop**

	Rice paddy				
	Fragrant rice (Hommali)	Provincial fragrant rice	Pathum fragrant rice	Glutinous rice	White rice
1. Eligible tonnage (ton/household) <sup>1/</sup>	14	16	25	16	25

2. Insured prices (Baht/ton) <sup>a/</sup>	15,300	14,300	11,000 <sup>d/</sup>	9,500	10,000
3. Benchmark prices (Baht/ton) <sup>b/ c/</sup>					
Dec 27, 2010 - Jan 2, 2011	13,295	12,873	10,657	14,002	8,769
Jan 3 - 9	13,108	12,878	10,442	13,942	8,636
Jan 10-16	13,080	12,849	10,390	13,927	8,537
Jan 17-23	12,990	12,799	10,403	13,966	8,527
Jan 24-30	12,989	12,798	10,787	14,206	8,715
4. Compensation (1-2), (Baht/ton)					
Dec 27, 2010 - Jan 2, 2011	2,005	1,427	343	-	1,231
Jan 3-9	2,192	1,422	558	-	1,364
Jan 10-16	2,220	1,451	610	-	1,463
Jan 17-23	2,310	1,501	597	-	1,473
Jan 24-30	2,311	1,502	213	-	1,285
5. Market prices (Baht/ton)					
Dec 27, 2010 - Jan 2, 2011	13,975	13,500	10,500	15,000	8,650
Jan 3-9	13,750	13,400	10,500	14,500	8,500
Jan 10-16	13,750	13,000	10,500	15,000	8,350
Jan 17-23	13,750	13,000	10,500	15,000	8,350
Jan 24-30 <sup>f/</sup>	13,750	13,000	10,500	15,000	8,350

Note:

<sup>a/</sup> Cabinet approval on  
Sep. 22, 2009

<sup>b/</sup> Starting March 8, 2010 the benchmark prices will be published on a weekly basis instead of twice a month on the 1st and 16th, based on average historical wholesale prices of last 15 days in Bangkok. The prices are set by the Subcommittee on Benchmark Price Determination, chaired by the Permanent Secretary General of the Ministry of Commerce.

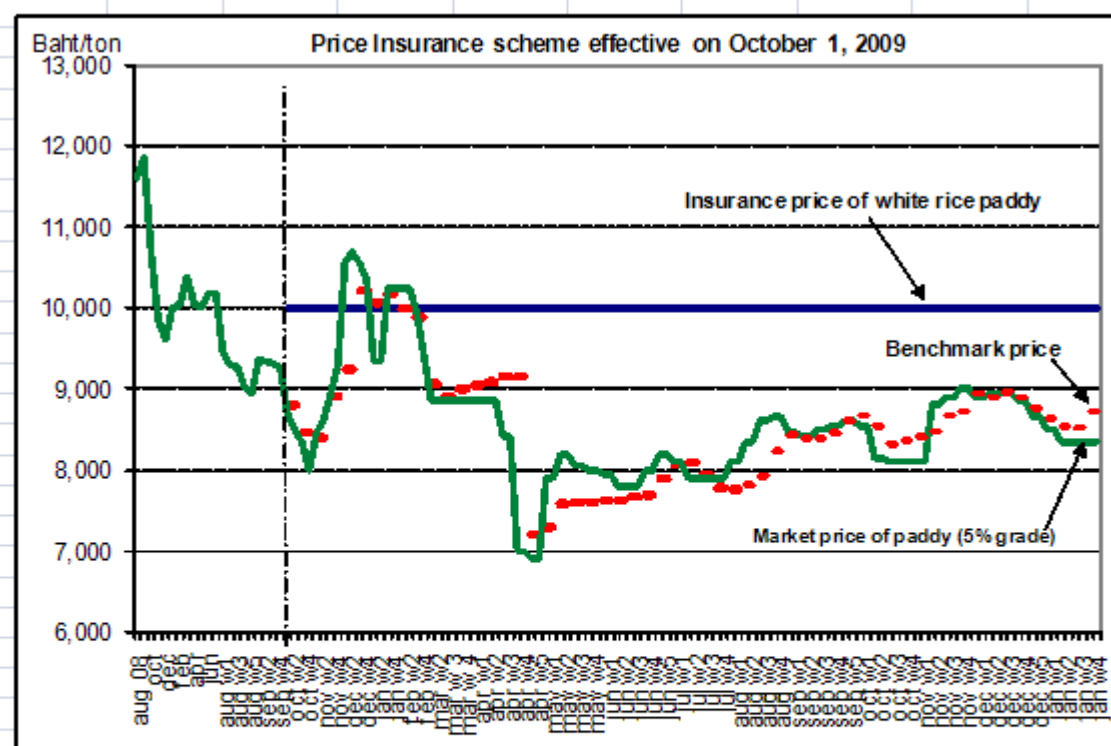
<sup>c/</sup> Starting Apr. 26, 2010 the benchmark prices will be based on average wholesales price of last week in Bangkok.

<sup>d/</sup> The insured prices of MY 2009/10 second-crop Pathum Fragrant rice were revised up from 10,000 tons/MT in MY2009/10 main-crop price insurance scheme, effective Mar. 16, 2010

<sup>e/</sup> The benchmark prices of fragrant rice and Provincial fragrant rice are for MY2010/11 crop.

<sup>f/</sup> As of Jan 24, 2011

**Figure 1: Comparison of market price, insurance price, and benchmark price**



Note: 1/ Benchmark prices are average historical wholesale prices which will be used for the calculation of compensation to farmers. The compensation is based on the difference between insurance prices and benchmark prices.

2/ Starting March 8, 2010 the benchmark prices will be published on a weekly basis instead of twice a month on the 1st and 16th, based on average historical wholesale prices of last 15 days in Bangkok. The prices are set by the Subcommittee on Benchmark Price Determination, chaired by the Permanent Secretary General of the Ministry of Commerce.

3/ Starting Apr. 26, 2010 the benchmark prices will be based on average wholesale price of last week in Bangkok.

## Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding fragrant rice) for January 17-23, 2011 totaled 179,423 tons, down 19,118 tons from the previous week. Exports of white rice and parboiled rice during January 1 – 23, 2011 totaled 568,489 tons, up 35.3 percent from 420,134 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during January 1 – 19, 2011 amounted to 531,662 tons, up 15.7 percent from 459,722 tons in the previous year.

**Table 3: Weekly rice exports (excluding fragrant rice)**

WEEK	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS %
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ENDING					OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	(%)
Nov 21	166,973	167,602	5,653	5,345	5.8
Nov 28	158,089	163,130	5,811	5,425	7.1
Dec 5	154,521	164,008	5,965	5,500	8.5
Dec 12	154,966	158,637	6,120	5,614	9.0
Dec 19	191,645	164,806	6,312	5,742	9.9
Dec 26	181,514	170,662	6,493	5,852	10.6
Dec 31	155,420	170,886	6,649	5,896	12.8
Jan 2, 2011	3,600	-	4	1	260.0
Jan 9	186,924	-	191	105	81.8
Jan 16	198,541	-	389	272	42.8
Jan 23	179,423	-	568	420	35.3

*Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.*

Source: Board of Trade of Thailand

<b>Table 4: Weekly private registered rice export sales</b>			
<b>Movement (MT)</b>	<b>Jan 3-7, 2011</b>	<b>Jan 10-14 (Revised)</b>	<b>Jan 17-21</b>
<b>Weekly sales</b>	<b>131,948</b>	<b>185,569</b>	<b>271,043</b>
<b>4 week sum</b>	-	-	-
<b>4 week mov. avg.</b>	-	-	-
<b>Year-to-date sales</b>	<b>131,948</b>	<b>317,517</b>	<b>588,560</b>

End of report.